STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Files

DATE: 12 February 1952

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: Conversation between [redacted] and the Writer on 12 February 1952.

1. Between 10:20 and 11:45 AM, 12 February 1952, the writer engaged in a long, involved, and somewhat heated discussion concerning "Artichoke" and related matters with [redacted].

2. In general, it may be stated that [redacted] arguments were that the Agency was doing nothing along "Artichoke" lines and that it was time for the Agency to make up its mind whether or not an extensive program for "Artichoke" should be put in effect or whether the general idea should be abolished. While not directly critical of I&SC [redacted] in the opinion of the writer, made it perfectly clear that he regarded the general viewpoint of I&SC [redacted] and [redacted] as more or less of a stumbling block, or at least a block, in the way of "Artichoke" work.

3. [redacted] showed the writer a long document which apparently was merely a proposal for extensive "Artichoke" work both here and abroad and involved the outlay of approximately [redacted] This plan more or less provided for the establishment of a laboratory in the United States (somewhere locally) and a large working area overseas.

4. [redacted] proposal seemed to be along the following lines:

1) OSI would recruit or have already been promised medical men, and scientists, etc. who would be available for the application of the latest possible techniques of all types to overseas subjects.

2) These technicians would be trained and produced by various agencies in the United States such as [redacted] through [redacted] has recently resigned); and other agencies, possibly including [redacted] and [redacted]

3) These men would be a sort of super-expert, combining psychiatry, psychology, and medical knowledge and would tackle the subjects in the field.

4) The subjects would be primarily individuals [redacted] or individuals whom the Agency wished

[redacted]

[redacted]

to do away with. [redacted] cited specifically that there were [redacted] of all types where plenty of subject material could be had.

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5) The very latest "ideas" would be used including electroshock, lysergic acid, drugs, electro-encephalograph, hypnosis, etc., etc.

6) The old "Bluebird" idea of an interrogation team would, of course, be done away with since these experts could administer the drugs, carry on interrogation, and handle the whole work themselves, apparently on an individual basis.

7) In connection with the proposal, [redacted] plan indicated that there would have to be a co-ordinator, a sort of combination doctor, businessman, and administrator, who would be the overall director of the Project and, apparently, there would be two permanent staffs, one here and one in [redacted] These staffs would be fairly large and would include at least one GS-15, one GS-14, and one GS-13 and, it is believed, about four other employees at Grades 11, 9, 5, and 4, etc. The plan also indicated that these positions would be interchangeable between here and the field.

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8) This plan also, as stated above, called for the establishment of some sort of laboratory here in the United States, but details of the type of laboratory were not fully set out nor was the basic reason for such a laboratory explained.

A B/6 H-C

5. [redacted] seemed unusually interested in and was apparently quite impressed with the theories of [redacted] and the electroshock treatment [redacted] has advanced in this connection. He stated that [redacted] did not think the use of drugs was particularly efficacious and felt the electroshock was more advantageous. [redacted] also clearly indicated that [redacted] was continuing to work on a sort of polygraph device that could be used in large-scale screening projects to determine whether or not there were individuals who might be of interest to us. He particularly stressed the "squealer" device that could be operated very simply by showing an individual pictures which would in turn create physiological reactions which would produce the squealing sound. When pressed for specific information as to whether

[redacted]

[redacted]

or not the elctroshock treatment had been used to obtain information from individuals, [redacted] stated that it had been used, but not extensively and he also admitted that it had been used in cases involving people not attempting to conceal information. He stated that this was one of the ideas for the large-scale project -- that this electroshock technique could be tried out more successfully overseas.

6. [redacted] also mentioned the possible usage of the pre-frontal lobotomy and stated that he thought this technique could be applied to individuals the Agency was not longer concerned with in the overseas areas on an experimental basis.

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7. [redacted] indicated that he felt that trained interrogators were of no particular importance in the matter of interrogation and stated that any psychiatrist or clinically trained psychologist could obtain the answers since they specialized in this anyway. [redacted] seemed to believe that the psychiatrist or doctor would be all that would be necessary in applying the medical techniques, handling the questions, etc., etc. He stated that the case officer and interpreter could assist but that the technical expert or psychiatrist would be sufficient to handle the entire job.

8. [redacted] stated that most of the psychiatrists, doctors, etc. he had talked to were not impressed by the use of drugs in this type of work, but admitted that other techniques were not and could not be readily made available. He constantly referred to the fact that that was the idea of the program -- to take every technique overseas and try it in these cases. [redacted] stated emphatically that no matter who was assigned to the "Artichoke" work from [redacted]'s staff, that [redacted]'s answer would be an emphatic "no" in regards to the whole situation. He spoke somewhat critically of [redacted] and stated that he had no background for this type of work. He stated that there were plenty of young medical officers at other places who knew more about this than [redacted] and his entire staff.

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9. [redacted] asked the writer whether or not we had had any trainees for this type of work furnished us. The writer told [redacted] that there had been several trainees but at the present time there was no one attached to this office as a trainee. [redacted] was critical of the fact that Personnel and recruiting people had failed to turn up people to be trained along these lines and further stated that the Agency could never produce individuals either medical men or scientists who would be willing to work along these lines and that he had already been promised, as stated above, a number of individuals who would be technically trained and could be used in these projects. [redacted] asked the writer whether or not we had any case in which we had immediate interest and the writer stated that there were none to his knowledge as of the present date. He stated that he should be informed

[redacted]

about all cases and the writer told him there were no cases contemplated in the future except the one that was to have been handled in November and the writer informed him that it was merely under consideration and further activity along this line was not known to the writer specifically. [redacted] was critical of the lack of cases being furnished by the operative divisions in this connection.

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10. [redacted] asked the writer if he was aware of the fact that [redacted] had studied or done work along hypnotic and/or drug lines during the war. The writer told [redacted] he was quite aware of the fact that [redacted] had participated in hypnotic experiments but was not aware of any extensive research [redacted] had done along these lines. [redacted] did not furnish any reports in this connection to the writer and [redacted] has never briefed the writer fully on the activities of [redacted] although for a year the writer has been urging someone to talk with [redacted] suggested that [redacted] would probably undertake to train Agency people in hypnosis and when the writer pointed out to [redacted] that [redacted] was not regarded as a top authority on hypnosis, [redacted] stated that most of the men (specialists in hypnosis) would not touch this type of work if they knew it would be "tainted", but he felt that [redacted] could be prevailed upon to do it.

lt - 8/6

11. As a general rule, it would appear to the writer that [redacted] was apparently disturbed by an overall lack of progress on the "Artichoke" work. The writer assured him that Security believes in large-scale progressive and intelligent research, but that a security problem was a strong factor in any large-scale project, particularly overseas. It is the writer's opinion that [redacted] does not understand the fact that irrespective of extensive research and theoretical ideas, none of the "new" techniques or "new" drugs could possibly be used against given cases at the present time. The writer attempted to make it clear to [redacted] that right now, on very short notice, this office could assemble a team and attack any one given case. The writer admitted that whether or not the operation would be successful was unknown, although a fair chance of success would appear to be present. The writer made none and has made no glowing claims for the drug-hypnosis technique, but pointed out to [redacted] that there was a lot of difference in being able to attack a case immediately in fact or trying some undeveloped attack on a case with possible disastrous results.

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12. For a matter of record, the writer wishes to point out that in many ways he is in complete agreement with [redacted] insofar as extensive research and actual case work is necessary to solve the problem. The writer does not agree with [redacted] that unless vast research is carried on, the project should be abandoned. The writer feels that at all times, the Agency, somewhere in its ramifications, should have a team of individuals capable on short notice of applying the "Artichoke" technique to specific cases since it may well be that at any given moment a supreme effort might have to be made to break a vital case. The writer

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[redacted]

[redacted] agrees with [redacted] that as a matter of policy, the Agency should go ahead and sponsor, pay for, initiate and assist large-scale research along "Artichoke" lines. The writer, however, is not at all impressed with talk of new techniques and new drugs and what wonders would be accomplished by psychiatrists, M.D.s, scientists, etc., etc. Furthermore, the writer does not understand why electroshock treatment or techniques using lysergic acid should be regarded as superior by anyone as compared with the more familiar amytal and pentothal, etc. While not totally successful, amytal, pentothal, etc. have at least been used with some success in the United States and elsewhere and electroshock, lysergic treatments, etc. at present are little more than theories only. The writer told [redacted] that he personally supported the idea of extensive research in this matter and that he along with [redacted] and [redacted] had agreed that overseas work along these lines was essential to develop the techniques.

13. The writer, as mentioned above, attempted to make it clear to [redacted] that there were many security problems involved in the laying on of extensive overseas operations. The writer also pointed out to [redacted] that objections, of course, would be raised to certain things, not only by Security, but more emphatically by [redacted] and [redacted] and that the laying on of extensive projects such as might be desirous would call for extensive planning and considerable preparation in advance. [redacted] stated that he had proposed these ideas six months ago and if they had been carried out as he suggested that all work would have been operational today in the field. He stated that in his opinion, this could not be operational for at least six more months even if the work was able to start tomorrow.

14. In concluding the discussion, [redacted] admitted that the writer did see eye to eye with him on many questions and although the writer attempted to make it very clear to him that policy was not his business, he is certain that this point is not clearly understood by [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

A/B, 4, 23/24

Natural Causes

A [redacted] Consultant to OSI

Vulnerability of U.S. to unconventional attack

Knock off key people. How knock off key guys

Project [redacted] (O.S.S.) [redacted] Natural Causes

A-B/3

Method produce cancer

Heart techniques (tried in [redacted] under [redacted] (sp.?) A

[redacted] (Now in [redacted])

Query--should facts on [redacted] be dug up?

H-B/6

Are they of interest to [redacted] Probably yes.

G

At any rate, we need know enough more about it to decide how much interest we have in it.

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Above data given to [redacted] by [redacted]